

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6392
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS TEHRAN 00459

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, UN, IR
SUBJ: SYG WALDHEIM COMMENTS ON MIDDLE EAST AND CYPRUS

REF: TEHRAN 186 NOTAL

1. SYG WALDHEIM IS CURRENTLY ON A FOUR DAY OFFICIAL VISIT
TO IRAN.

2. HE HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE ON ARRIVAL JAN. 10
HIGHLIGHTS OF WHICH WERE PUBLISHED IN FRENCH-LANGUAGE
JOURNAL DE TEHRAN. HE WAS ASKED SPECIFICALLY ABOUT
THE MIDDLE EAST AND CYPRUS.

3. WITH REGARD TO A SOLUTION TO THE MIDDLE EAST CRISIS,
WALDHEIM WAS QUOTED AS SAYING: "A GLOBAL SOLUTION IN
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THE MIDDLE EAST ENTAILS A LONG PROCESS. I DO NOT EXPECT
IT TO HAPPEN SOON. THERE IS NO DOUBT, HOWEVER, THAT
THE PEACE INITIATIVE OF PRESIDENT SADAT AND HIS VISIT
TO JERUSALEM CONSTITUTE AN IMPORTANT HISTORIC EVENT.
NOW, WE MUST SEE IF THE FOLLOW UP TO THAT INITIATIVE
WILL LEAD TO A SOLUTION. IT IS DIFFICULT TO FORECAST
IN THIS AREA, BUT ANY FORECAST MUST TAKE INTO ACCOUNT

UN RES. 242 AND 338 AND OTHER DECISIONS OF THE UN. THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION IS THE MOST DIFFICULT PRINCIPLE TO BE RESOLVED. IF A LOGICAL SOLUTION TO THAT DIFFICULTY IS NOT FOUND, I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO RESOLVE THE CRISIS." WITH REGARD TO THE GENEVA CONFERENCE, WALDHEIM REPORTEDLY SAID, "UNDER PRESENT CONDITIONS, IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO RECONVENE. HOWEVER, I HOPE THAT PRESENT EFFORTS WILL LEAD TO THE RESUMPTION OF THAT CONFERENCE. WE ARE NOW FACED WITH THE QUESTION OF THE CREATION OF A PALESTINIAN STATE. VIEWS DIFFER ON THIS PROPOSAL. EVIDENTLY A NUMBER OF DIFFICULTIES EXIST WHICH MUST BE RESOLVED AND THAT WILL TAKE TIME."

4. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION ON CYPRUS, WALHEIM EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT "THE TWO COMMUNITIES, GREEK AND TURKISH, WILL BEGIN NEGOTIATING NOT LATER THAN FEBRUARY OR THE BEGINNING OF MARCH." WALDHEIM ADDED THAT HE "HAD BEEN ASSURED BY THE TURKISH PRIME MINISTER THAT THE TURKS WILL SUBMIT NEW PROPOSALS FOR THESE NEGOTIATIONS. HE HAS ADDED THAT HE WILL PUBLISH THE PROPOSALS SO THAT THE TWO COMMUNITIES CAN BE AWARE OF THEM."
SULLIVAN

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